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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/725,293	12/01/2003	Werner Beck	P02,0627-01	2944

7590 06/28/2005

SCHIFF HARDIN & WAITE
Patent Department
6600 Sears Tower
233 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, IL 60606

EXAMINER

ARTMAN, THOMAS R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2882

DATE MAILED: 06/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

5m

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/725,293

Applicant(s)

BECK ET AL.

Examiner

Thomas R. Artman

Art Unit

2882

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 December 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 December 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 01 December 2003.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-3 and 5-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cecil (US 4,991,193).

Regarding claim 1, Cecil discloses an X-ray unit (Figs.1 and 2), including:

- a) an X-ray source whose triggering for an X-ray shot can be blocked automatically upon reaching a thermal loading limit for the X-ray source (col.5, lines 8-23, 37-40 and 51-67),
- b) a control device 70 configured for controlling the X-ray source,
- c) a control element 72 configured to initiate an unblocking the blocked X-ray source when operated,
- d) a display (62, 64 and/or 66) connected to the X-ray unit configured to display an indication related to a period of time that the X-ray source requires in order to leave the thermal loading limit once the thermal loading limit has been reached, and
- e) the display and the control unit are integrated in a common break-time key (touchscreen 24).

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With respect to claim 2, Cecil further discloses that the indication is a countdown timer 66.

With respect to claim 3, Cecil further discloses that the indication is a text-based percentage of total time indicator (col.5, lines 55-59).

Regarding claim 5, Cecil discloses a break-time key (Fig.2), including:

- a) a display (62, 64 and/or 66) connected to the X-ray unit configured to display an indication related to a period of time that the X-ray source requires in order to leave the thermal loading limit once the thermal loading limit has been reached, and
- b) a control element 72 that, when operated, is configured to initiate an unblocking the blocked X-ray source caused by the thermal load limit being reached.

With respect to claim 6, Cecil further discloses that the break-time key is an element of a touch-sensitive screen 24.

With respect to claims 7 and 8, the key is an integrated display chip of LEDs (basic touchscreen design).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cecil, as applied to claim 1 above, in view of Siemens (Generator POLYDOROS).

Cecil does not specifically disclose that the display is a graphical display of the percentage of total time.

Siemens specifically teaches the common use of graphical displays as percentages of a total value of a parameter on pp.13-14. As is known in the art, graphical representations of data provides a much quicker means for a human to ascertain the meaning of data than through words or numbers. Graphical representations are used for a variety of visual aids, such as in meetings and even television advertisements.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for Cecil to display a graphical representation of a percentage of the total time in order for a human to quickly ascertain the meaning of the data, as is shown by Siemens and is known.

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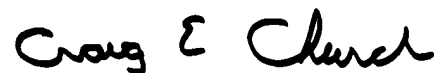
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas R. Artman whose telephone number is (571) 272-2485. The examiner can normally be reached on 9am - 6:30pm Monday - Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ed Glick can be reached on (571) 272-2490. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Thomas R. Artman
Patent Examiner



Craig E. Church
Primary Examiner